ABSTRACT

A system for operating an astronomical observatory made up of astronomical hardware, utilizing a web browser operated by a user, and a web server connected to the observatory, wherein both the control

5   to, and feedback from the observatory are displayed to the user in real time independent of personnel support at the observatory site. The user submits a request to the observatory via the web browser, which displays the status and results of the request. A web server, coupled to the various astronomical hardware, processes the request on behalf of the user and responds with the status and results of the request. The status and/or results are then displayed by the web browser to the user. Requests may be made by the user

10   interactively, or in the form of a script. The system may be used over wide area networks, like the Internet, or any other type of network.